



LLANGFNI URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

for 1951

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. P. WALLACE, M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

incorporating the Report of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

W. ROSSER HARRIES, M.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I.

LLANGEFNI URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR
THE YEAR 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of
Llangefni Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1951.

The first part of the report deals with the General and Vital Statistics of the Urban District. As is customary, I have computed and set out the various "rates" based on the Registrar General's returns. When considering a population of the order of this District, too much stress should not be laid on these rates as compared with previous years and larger areas.

The birth and death rates have been adjusted for comparison with the rates for England & Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. This adjustment, which is made by applying a comparability factor given by the Registrar General, makes allowance for the age and sex constitution of the population of the District.

The rise in the death rate as compared with the figures for recent years is to some extent attributable to the influenza epidemic which spread from the North of England towards the end of December, 1950 and assumed epidemic proportion in Anglesey early in January 1951. The peak of the epidemic occurred at about the third week of January when the sickness rate was causing concern and staffing problems in shops, factories and schools. A gradual decline ensued and the epidemic petered out towards the end of February. Four deaths occurred in Llangefni which were attributed to influenzal infection. A high influenza death rate was recorded for the country as a whole. In England & Wales it was 0.38 per thousand population - higher than the death rate from tuberculosis (0.31). In *Wales alone the influenza death rate was even higher - 0.55; again in excess of the tuberculosis death rate which was 0.41. These figures are not quoted with the intention of minimising the dangers of tuberculosis, which is an ever present scourge; they are intended to give an impression of the severity of an epidemic which flared up, burned, and died down like a stellar nova in the space of a few weeks amid the more constant and less dramatic infectious diseases whose menace is always with us.

Fifty-two cases of whooping cough were notified during the year. There were no deaths due to this troublesome disease of early childhood. It is of interest to note that one of the notifications concerned an elderly lady who contracted the disease. This is an unusual but not unheard of occurrence. Resistance to the infecting organism is occasionally lost during the "second childhood".

* including Monmouthshire.

Minor outbreaks of dysentery caused a good deal of anxiety. The type of disease was fortunately not very severe though the menace which the infection can be to young young children and babies warrants every precaution being taken to limit the spread of the disease. Dysentery showed an unusually high incidence throughout the whole country during the year.

The part of this report dealing with the sanitary circumstances of the District has been mainly compiled by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Rosser Harries. Comments and observations on this part of the report have been interpolated among the tabulated items.

I should like to make brief reference to the sense of personal loss which I shared with the Council on the passing of Councillors T.J. Jones and Rowland Jones, the former during the year to which this report relates and the latter more recently. The intelligent and genuine interest taken by these gentlemen in health matters was, I am sure, appreciated by us all and their presence in the council chamber is sadly missed.

I wish to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the Members of the Council for your stimulating interest in public health affairs. I also wish to record my gratitude to the Clerk and the Sanitary Inspector for their ready co-operation at all times.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

G.P. Wallace.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) ...	...	...	...	...	2,510
Population (Registrar General's estimate, mid 1951 ...	...	...	...	...	2,226
Number of Inhabited Houses..	...	...	...	...	681
Number of Council Houses ...	...	...	...	...	262
Rateable Value ...	...	...	...	...	£14,490
Sum produced by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£57

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	20	17	37
Illegitimate	0	1	1
	20	18	38

The Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was 17.1. Rates for previous years were: 1948, 20.9; 1949, 23.0; 1950, 22.2. The Birth Rate for Anglesey in 1951 was 16.1.

The area comparability factor for births, which allows for age and sex constitution of the area, was 1.05.

The Adjusted Birth Rate computed by means of this figure was 17.9. The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1951 was 15.5; Scotland, 17.7; Northern Ireland, 20.7.

<u>Stillbirths.</u>	...	...	...	Nil.
<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
	14	20	34	

The Death Rate per 1,000 population was 15.3 compared with 10.9 in 1948, 11.5 in 1949 and 13.0 in 1950. The Death Rate for Anglesey in 1951 was 15.1.

The area comparability factor for deaths was 0.91, giving an Adjusted Death Rate of 13.9. The Death Rate for England and Wales, 12.5; Scotland, 12.9; Northern Ireland, 12.8.

<u>Maternal Deaths.</u>	...	...	...	Nil.
<u>Deaths Under One Year of Age.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate	1	2	3	
Illegitimate	0	0	0	
	1	2	3	

The above figures relate to infants who were all under four weeks of age. Therefore, the Neo-natal Death figures are the same as the Infant Death Figures.

Infant (and Neo-natal) Mortality per 1,000 live births
= 78.9.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 29.6; Scotland, 37.0; N. Ireland, 41.0; Anglesey, 54.8.

The Neo-natal Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 18.8; Scotland, 22.0; Northern Ireland, 25.0; Anglesey, 28.0.

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES).

The following table shows the causes of death in the district. These figures have been supplied by the Registrar - General and are in accordance with the new International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	0
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	0	0
3. Syphilitic disease...	0	0
4. Diphtheria ...	0	0
5. Whooping Cough ...	0	0
6. Meningococcal infections ...	0	0
7. Acute poliomyelitis..	0	0
8. Measles ...	0	0
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	0	0
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach...	0	0
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	0	0
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	0
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	0	0
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	1
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	0	0
16. Diabetes ...	0	0
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	2	3
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	2	1
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	0	2
20. Other heart disease..	2	5
21. Other circulatory disease ...	0	1
22. Influenza...	1	3
23. Pneumonia...	1	0
24. Bronchitis..	0	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system...	0	0
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	0	0
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1
28. Nephritis and neparosis ...	0	0
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	0	0
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	0
31. Congenital malformations ...	0	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	2	1
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	0	0
34. All other accidents..	0	0
35. Suicide ...	0	0
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	0	0
ALL CAUSES.	14	20

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The demands on the water supply have greatly increased in recent years and while those demands have been met it has been at the expense of the efficiency of treatment of the water. The part of the supply from the Cefni river has often to go through the processes of sedimentation and filtration far too rapidly.

Thirty bacteriological samples of treated water were taken during the year. Twenty-six of these were reported by the laboratory as being "Highly satisfactory" and four were classified as "Unsatisfactory".

Of the total number of houses serviced by the water mains, 95.5% are supplied direct to the houses and 4.5% by means of standpipes.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The present disposal of sewage is quite unsatisfactory and is the source of many justifiable complaints. The council's consulting engineers still have the new scheme under consideration. The provision of the proper means of sewage disposal has become increasingly urgent with the expansion of the town in recent years.

During the year a sewer extension was provided for 12 houses in the Corn Hir housing site.

Refuse Disposal.

The refuse is collected by a modern refuse-collecting vehicle and carried to a dump about 1½ miles from the town. There is need to establish a new dumping ground and it is hoped to achieve this during 1952.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Number of complaints received and investigated	34
Total number of visits of all kinds paid by Inspector during the year.	473
Statutory Notices: Served	1
Complied with	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authorities in default	Nil
Informal Notices: Served	7
Complied with	6
Legal proceedings taken	Nil

Summary of inspections and visits made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year.

Housing	...	...	...	...	117.
Nuisances etc. (not included under Housing).	...				34.
Swimming Pools.	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Knackers' Yards.	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Offensive Trades.	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Factory Trades.	...	...	...	...	9.
Shop Acts....	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Petroleum Act.	...	...	...	...	1.
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Dairies	...	...	...	...	3.
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	10.
Meat Inspections at Slaughterhouses	...			...	208.
Bakehouses...	...	...	...	...	4.
Food Shops...	...	...	...	...	16.
Food Stalls and Vehicles	...		...	...	Nil.
Cafés, restaurants, canteens, hotel kitchens, etc.					5
Food factories	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Other food preparing places	...		...	...	6.
Infectious Disease Visits	...		...	...	7.
Rats & Mice Destruction Act	...		...	...	7.
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	47.

RATS & MICE DESTRUCTION.

During the latter part of the year the new Rodent Operator commenced duty and made a survey of the District.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.
 - (1). (a). Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 98.
 - (b). Number of inspections made for the purpose...117.

Housing (continued).

- (2). (a). Number of dwelling-houses included under sub-head (1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. ... Nil.
- (b). Number of inspections made for the purpose. Nil.
- (3). Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ... 2.
- (4). Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. ... 9.
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.
- Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. ... 7.
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.
- (a). Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. ... Nil.
- (2). Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.
- (a) By owners.. ... Nil.
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..Nil.
- (b). Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.
- (1). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. ... 1.
- (2). Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.Nil.
- (a) By owners.. ... Nil.
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..Nil.
- (c). Proceedings under Section 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:
- (1). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil.
- (2). Number of dwelling-houses demolished ... Nil.
- (3). Number of houses awaiting demolition ... 1.
- (4). Number of houses closed (undertakings accepted for use other than for human habitation)... Nil.

(d). Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1). Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. ... Nil.
- (2). Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. ... Nil.

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part III. Section 26.

Number of houses in respect of which Clearance orders were made. ... Nil.

Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

Two cases of overcrowding were found during the year one of which has already been alleviated. It is hoped that the other family will be rehoused before long.

Summary of Housing Defects and Nuisances remedied during the year.

Keeping of animals.	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Sanitary accommodation:	insufficient	...	...	1.	
	defective	...	...	Nil.	
Drainage:	reconstructions.	...	...	6.	
	repaired	...	...	4.	
	cleansed	...	...	Nil.	
Cesspools:	abolished	...	...	Nil.	
	repaired	...	...	Nil.	
Conversions to w.c.'s	...	...	...	...	1.
Refuse receptacles.	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Food Stores	...	...	...	...	1.
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	6.
Walls and ceilings.	...	...	...	...	8.
Floors	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Windows and ventilation	...	...	...	...	1.
Baths, lavatory basins and sinks.	...	...	...	...	2.
Staircases.	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Coppers (defective)	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Dampness..	...	...	...	...	6.

Summary of Housing Defects and Nuisances remedied during the year (continued).

Roofs and rainwater pipes.	...	...	...	6.
Yard paving.	...	...	...	Nil.
Chimneys and fireplaces.	...	...	...	Nil.
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	3.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Slaughterhouses.

Number in District	1.
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Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1003.	52	3946	257
Number inspected	1003	52	3946	257
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	37	15	71	15
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	391	6	707	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	42%	40%	19%	14%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	7	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	22	-	-	16
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.8%	-	-	6.6%

Conditions at the slaughterhouse are far from satisfactory from the hygienic point of view. There is insufficient pressure in the water supply, drainage of the premises is defective and there are no detention rooms for condemned meat. The access is unsuitable and condemned meat hides have to be loaded in the street.

Milk.

Number of milk distributors and dairy premises
(other than dairy farms). 2

Ice Cream.

Number of premises registered... 8

(a). For the manufacture of ice cream... ... 1

(b). For the sale of ice cream. 7

Results of samples taken:

Grade 1. 9

" II. 9

" III. 6

" IV. 6

Food Premises.

	No. in District.	No. of visits.	No. of faults & defects found.	No. of faults & defects remedied.
Cafés, restaurants and canteens.	5	5	Nil.	Nil.
Bakehouses.	4	4	1	Nil.
Premises registered for the manufacture of preserved food (section 14 Food & Drugs Act).	3	6	Nil.	Nil.
Other Food Shops.	26	16	Nil.	Nil.
Food Stalls and Vehicles	Nil	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Food Factories.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

Cafés, Restaurants & Canteens.

All cafés are under the supervision of owner occupiers.
Conditions leave much to be desired and an educational campaign
is being organised in 1952.

Bakehouses.

The bakehouses are under the supervision of owners. Some premises are wholly unsuitable for the purpose.

Premises registered for the manufacture of Preserved Food (Sec. 14 Food & Drugs Act).

These shops include premises where sausage meat is prepared. Only one establishment manufactures preserved food on a large scale.

Unsound Food.

Food condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption:-

Butcher's meat. 13 tons 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

Other food (including tinned food).

Cooked Ham.	178 lbs.
Bacon.	5 lbs.
Meat.	33 tins
Soup.	7 "
Milk.	9 "
Veg.	15 "
Fish.	10 "
Fruit.	52 "
Jam.	3 "
Pickles.	7 bottles.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	26	10	1	Nil.
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	5	3	1	Nil.
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL.	31	13	2	Nil.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1938 (continued).

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	5	-	1	-

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was taken in respect of any individual under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

At their December meeting the Council gave authority to the Medical Officer of Health to act under the National Assistance Amendment Act, 1951.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis).

Table showing cases notified during the
year, classified in age groups.

Disease	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-15	15 & over	Deaths
Scarlet Fever.	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
Measles.	-	5	1	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough.	4	13	23	11	-	1	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	8	-
Dysentery.	-	-	2	10	1	7	-

Tuberculosis.

Notifications of tuberculosis were as follows:-

Age.	Sex.	Respiratory or Non-Respiratory.
24 yrs.	F.	Respiratory.
44 yrs.	M.	Respiratory.

One tuberculosis death (an adult male) occurred during the year.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

These services are provided by the County Council and by General Medical Practitioners in the District. The following figures are quoted by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

Diphtheria Immunisation in relation to child population.

0 - 4 yrs.			5 - 15 yrs.			TOTAL.		
Popula- tion.	No. Immun- ised.	%	Popula- tion.	No. Immun- ised.	%	Popula- tion.	No. Immun- ised.	%
215	183	85.2	335	255	76.1	550	438	79.6

Vaccination against Smallpox.

Sixty-two children were vaccinated during the year. Forty five of these were primary vaccinations and seventeen were re-vaccinations.

Vaccination against tuberculosis.

B.C.G. Vaccination is carried out by the Chest Physician in collaboration with the County Medical Officer and his staff. The scheme provides for the vaccination of new-born infants born into tuberculosis households and of tuberculin-negative contacts of known cases. During 1951 eight such vaccinations were carried out in the District.

